

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Massachusetts
State Library

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1938



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled:

The Trustees of the State Library make this their twenty-ninth annual report for the year ending November 30, 1938 under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 37, of the General Laws (Ter. Ed.) ~~MASS. OFFICIAL~~

The term of Mr. James F. Ballard expired June 1. He was reappointed for an additional term of three years by His Excellency Governor Charles F. Hurley.

The Trustees approve the recommendations made by the Librarian for additional space to accommodate the growing collection of books in the State Library. Action on this matter cannot be deferred. The only expenditure involved in this would be an appropriation for additional steel stacks which appropriation has been requested annually during the past two years and is again included in the budget recommendations. The slight increase in the appropriation for books and binding and for contingent expenses has been offset by savings in the appropriation for personal services so that the total expenditure was slightly less than the preceding year.

The Trustees recognize the valuable services rendered to the State Library by WPA workers. The Commonwealth has benefited by the improved condition of the books in the library.

The State Librarian was designated to represent the Commonwealth at the joint meetings of the American Library Association and the National Association of State Libraries at Kansas City in June.

JAMES F. BALLARD, *Chairman*
CHARLES T. COPELAND
MARGARET SHEA

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

I have the honor to submit the following report on the work done in the Massachusetts State Library during the year ending November 30, 1938.

The following tabulation of figures is again a slight advancement over the preceding year:

Main Room:

Circulation,	44,313 volumes
Telephone reference questions,	754
Daily average attendance,	100-150

Legislative Reference Room:

Circulation,	1,742
Telephone reference questions,	700
Total attendance,	2,010

Newspaper Room:

Circulation,	5,036
Total attendance,	2,951

On November 30 the total number of volumes in the library passed the 600,000 mark. This includes both books and pamphlets. As pamphlets accumulate in series a number of them are bound together to make one book thus reducing constantly the total accumulations, while at the same time, we are building up the value of the library in terms of available material, especially in the field of public documents.

Three Federal WPA projects have been operated in the library during the year. Two of these have been carried on since December 1936; one of them has been checking the shelf list, the other rebinding and repairing old leather bound books. During the year 17,059 volumes have been rebound, making the grand total for the project since its beginning 24,695 volumes. The third project is engaged in indexing the special collections in the State Library such as Professor Albert Bushnell Hart's collection of Washingtoniana, newspaper clippings, scrap books containing material on state affairs, and bar association reports.

Again I must plead for additional space for the State Library. In times past there was some reason for hoping that the State Library would be accommodated in a new building with the Supreme Court. Now it seems evident that the growth and development of the State Library must be within the State House itself. Ten or twelve years ago a temporary arrangement was made to provide storage space for books in the large basement room of the West wing. Removable steel stacks were built in this room. Over 100,000 books from the State Library have been stored there. Among these are included the legislative journals of all the forty-eight states. This collection is recognized as by far the best in the country. Some items, if lost or

destroyed, could not be replaced. I, therefore, recommend the extension of the State Library by taking over space on the fourth and fifth floors on the Northwest corner of the State House and also space on the second floor directly below the State Library. The rear portion of the State House was originally planned by the architect to carry the excess load of the library.

During the year Charles W. Johnson, the porter, was retired on reaching the age of seventy, and Miss Marjorie Webster resigned to accept a position in the Federal Archives in Washington.

ADDITIONS

Number of volumes added to the Library from Dec. 1, 1937, to Nov. 30, 1938:

Books

By purchase 1,375 plus 551 maps, etc.,	1,420
By domestic exchange,	1,195
By foreign exchange,	191
By gifts,	2,057
Massachusetts state publications,	472
Total,	5,335

PAMPHLETS

By purchase,	406
By domestic exchange,	1,963
By foreign exchange,	154
By gift,	4,932
Massachusetts state publications,	814
Total,	8,269
Total 1937-38,	13,604
Previous total,	587,952
Total volumes and pamphlets in library, Nov. 30, 1938,	601,556

TABULATION

Volumes and pamphlets catalogued by the new plan, Dec. 1, 1937,	422,826
Volumes and pamphlets catalogued during the year,	13,885
Total volumes and pamphlets catalogued Dec. 1, 1938,	436,711
Less volumes and pamphlets reduced by binding,	674
Less volumes and pamphlets lost,	0
Less volumes and pamphlets discarded,	188
Net volumes and pamphlets represented in the new catalogue, Dec. 1, 1938,	435,849
Represented by 680,134 cards.	

DENNIS A. DOOLEY.
State Librarian.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS IN ACCOUNT WITH STATE LIBRARY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, DEC. 1, 1937 TO NOV. 30, 1938

Expenditures

From appropriation of \$5,700 for salary of State Librarian,	\$5,700.00
From appropriation of \$42,400 for salaries of staff,	40,839.67
From appropriation of \$11,000 for books and binding,	10,998.41
From appropriation of \$2,300 for contingent expenses,	2,289.90
Total,	\$59,827.98
Salary of State Librarian,	\$5,700.00
Salary of Assistant State Librarian,	\$3,090.00
Salary of Head of Catalogue Department,	2,460.00
Salaries of 3 Library Reference Assistants,	6,600.00
Salaries of 11 Senior Library Assistants,	19,121.61
Salaries of 4 Junior Library Assistants,	4,950.00
Salaries of 3 Senior and Junior Clerks and Typists,	3,960.00
Salary of Porter,	658.06
Purchase of books,	\$7,448.77
Binding,	3,549.64
Annual report for 1936-37,	\$12.74
Contingent Expenses,	2,277.16
Total,	\$59,827.98

Receipts

Sale of Constitutional Convention documents,	\$5.50
Subscription refund,	5.50
Total,	\$11.00

*1 position vacant since August 1, 1938.

** position vacant since May 16, 1938.

Financial Statement Verified

Approved,

GEO. E. MURPHY, Comptroller.

TABLE OF ACCESSIONS

BOOKS

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
By purchase	1,630	1,532	1,674	1,829	1,781	1,520	1,527	1,418	1,358	1,591	1,203	1,475	1,998	1,420
Domestic exchange	1,193	1,217	1,070	1,050	1,124	1,133	1,171	1,067	1,090	911	918	959	1,009	1,195
Foreign exchange	190	200	199	234	186	160	216	146	174	146	149	144	228	191
Donation	1,430	1,239	1,464	1,413	1,857	1,486	1,692	1,766	1,673	2,089	1,735	2,005	2,337	2,057
Massachusetts state publications	506	349	396	548	318	393	411	353	405	440	349	374	387	472
Totals	4,949	4,537	4,803	5,074	5,266	4,692	5,017	4,750	4,700	5,177	4,354	4,957	5,959	5,335

PAMPHLETS

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
By purchase	431	496	379	637	599	512	520	427	384	423	271	326	381	406
Domestic exchange	1,532	1,154	1,221	1,217	1,730	1,466	1,457	1,507	2,173	1,738	1,391	1,640	1,626	1,963
Foreign exchange	173	86	141	107	114	186	108	114	103	89	95	123	198	154
Donation	3,219	3,946	4,181	3,370	3,488	3,791	3,837	3,596	4,518	5,769	3,819	3,600	4,400	4,932
Massachusetts state publications	718	760	544	428	433	537	470	427	630	709	613	782	944	814
Totals	6,073	6,442	6,466	5,759	6,364	6,492	6,392	6,071	7,808	8,728	6,189	6,471	7,549	8,269

Total volumes and pamphlets in library, November 30, 1938, 601,556.